

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1301 North Orchard Street, Boise, ID 83706 - P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0098 Phone: (208) 327-7900 Fax: (208) 327-7866 Web Site: www.idwr.state.id.us

DIRK KEMPTHORNE

June 20, 2002

Governor KARL J. DREHER Director

«Name» «Street» «City», Idaho «Zip»

Re: Curtailment of Ground Water Use Under Water Right(s) «Wtr Rts»

Original Signature

Dear Water Right Holder:

The records of the Idaho Department of Water Resources ("Department") indicate that you own one or more water rights for the use of ground water within Water District 130 and the Thousand Springs Ground Water Management Area (GWMA). Department records do not indicate that out-of-priority diversion and use of water under your water right(s) is covered by either an approved mitigation plan or one of the stipulated agreements negotiated last year by the North Snake and Magic Valley Ground Water Districts and certain municipal and industrial water users. As you may know, earlier this week holders of such ground water rights having priority dates later than July 21, 1967, were given 14-day notice that diversion and use of ground water under their rights will be curtailed to avert injury to senior priority water rights from springs and surface water tributary to the Snake River. Although the priority of your water right(s) is earlier than July 21, 1967, the Department anticipates that diversion and use of ground water under your water right(s) will also need to be curtailed before the end of this year, as water supplies continue to decrease because of the drought or earlier priority surface water rights make delivery calls for distribution of water.

Because of severe drought conditions persisting across the Upper Snake River Basin, the Thousand Springs GWMA was established last August. This allowed the Department to seek curtailment of relatively junior priority ground water diversions from the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer ("ESPA") that further reduce the water supply available to senior priority water rights from springs and surface water tributary to the Snake River. The order designating the Thousand Springs GWMA identified an area within 10 kilometers from the Thousand Springs canyon wall north and east of the Snake River within which use of relatively junior ground water rights was determined by the Department to injure or potentially injure senior priority surface water rights. Within this area. curtailing ground water diversions will increase spring discharges tributary to the Snake River by an amount equal to 50 percent or more of the associated ground water depletions within 6 months of curtailment. This determination was made using the results from the Department's ESPA regional ground water flow model.

Curtailment orders were not issued last year to the holders of water rights for ground water in the area identified for curtailment because ground water districts and other entities representing the holders of the water rights entered into 2-year stipulated agreements with representatives of holders of affected senior rights from the interconnected springs and surface water tributary to the Snake River. These stipulated agreements provided for creation of a water district pursuant to Chapter 6, Title 42, Idaho Code, to enforce the terms of the agreements and curtail the diversion and use of water under junior priority water rights that the Department determines are injuring senior priority

water rights, if the holders of the junior priority water rights are not represented by entities entering into the stipulated agreements or are not otherwise mitigating the injury.

On February 19, 2002, a Final Order was issued creating Water District 130 for the administration of rights to the use of ground water and springs discharging from the ESPA in the Thousand Springs area. The first annual Water District 130 meeting was held on April 23, 2002, at which a watermaster was elected and certain resolutions were adopted.

On March 27, 2002, the Department sent a letter to you and others within Water District 130 who had water rights that were not afforded the "safe harbor" provided by an approved mitigation plan or one of the stipulated agreements negotiated last year by either the ground water districts or a group of municipal and industrial users. That letter notified right holders that the Department, through Water District 130, might need to take action to curtail diversions not covered by a stipulated agreement or an approved mitigation plan where the Department has determined that such diversions are causing injury to senior priority water rights.

Unfortunately, drought conditions continue to persist across southern Idaho and the Snake River plain, and spring discharges in the Thousand Springs reach of the Snake River are similar or less than last year. Because the water right(s) you hold is located in Water District 130 and the Thousand Springs GWMA impact area and is not covered by an approved mitigation plan or one of the stipulated agreements negotiated by either the ground water districts or the group of municipal and industrial water users, your water right is subject to administration by the watermaster for Water District 130. Please be aware that the Department expects to instruct the watermaster to curtail diversion and use of ground water under your water right before the end of this year. Unless water supply conditions dramatically improve, I anticipate that curtailment will need to be extended for all of next year's irrigation season.

I regret that this action is likely to be necessary. You may want to consider joining one of the ground water districts that has signed a stipulated agreement as an alternative to having your use of ground water curtailed. Should you have questions about this matter, or if you believe your water right should be excluded from this anticipated action, please contact Cindy Yenter (Water District 130 Watermaster) by telephone to (208) 736-3033 or contact Tim Luke at the Department of Water Resources at the address above or by telephone to (208) 327-7864.

Karl Dreher

Director

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 20th day of June, 2002, the attached letter regarding curtailment of ground water use within the Thousand Springs Area Water District 130 dated 6/20/02 was sent to the following individuals by placing a copy of the same in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, return receipt and properly addressed as follows:

36-10767A, 36-10767B Goedhart & Goedhart Partnership 1548 E 3600 S Wendell ID 83355

36-14310 Producers Livestock Marketing Assn. PO Box 380 Jerome ID 83338

36-15071 William G Laird 4755 Mountain Ln Salt Lake City UT 84124

Dayna M. Ball, Office Specialist II

Water Distribution Section



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DIRK KEMPTHORNE Governor KARL J. DREHER Director

June 20, 2002

Goedhart & Goedhart Partnership 1548 E 3600 S Wendell, Idaho 83355

Re: Curtailment of Ground Water Use Under Water Right(s) 36-10767A, 36-10767B

Dear Water Right Holder:

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Because of severe drought conditions persisting across the Upper Snake River Basin, the Thousand Springs GWMA was established last August. This allowed the Department to seek curtailment of relatively junior priority ground water diversions from the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer ("ESPA") that further reduce the water supply available to senior priority water rights from springs and surface water tributary to the Snake River. The order designating the Thousand Springs GWMA identified an area within 10 kilometers from the Thousand Springs canyon wall north and east of the Snake River within which use of relatively junior ground water rights was determined by the Department to injure or potentially injure senior priority surface water rights. Within this area, curtailing ground water diversions will increase spring discharges tributary to the Snake River by an amount equal to 50 percent or more of the associated ground water depletions within 6 months of curtailment. This determination was made using the results from the Department's ESPA regional ground water flow model.

Curtailment orders were not issued last year to the holders of water rights for ground water in the area identified for curtailment because ground water districts and other entities representing the holders of the water rights entered into 2-year stipulated agreements with representatives of holders of affected senior rights from the interconnected springs and surface water tributary to the Snake River. These stipulated agreements provided for creation of a water district pursuant to Chapter 6, Title 42, Idaho Code, to enforce the terms of the agreements and curtail the diversion and use of water under junior priority water rights that the Department determines are injuring senior priority



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DIRK KEMPTHORNE Governor KARL J. DREHER

June 20, 2002

Producers Livestock Marketing Assn. PO Box 380 Jerome, Idaho 83338

Re: Curtailment of Ground Water Use Under Water Right(s) 36-14310

Dear Water Right Holder:

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DIRK KEMPTHORNE Governor KARL J. DREHER Director

June 20, 2002

William G Laird 4755 Mountain Ln Salt Lake City, Utah 84124

Re: Curtailment of Ground Water Use Under Water Right(s) 36-15071

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES 1301 North Orchard Street, P.O. Box 83720 STATE OF IDAHO

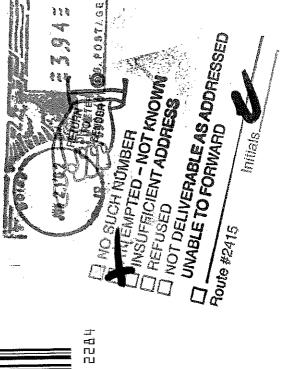
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Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

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